

# American Hostesses in London and Their Homes

LONDON, July 12.—The coronation season has provided a social triumph for American hostesses in London. Grosvenor Square and Belgrave Square, which are the particular choice of rich Americans as places of residence, have

were massed in great baskets and hung in festoons. The second embassy, as the Burdett-Coutts house has been named since John Hays Hammond made it his temporary home, has been equally hospitable. Lunch-

es and dinners have followed each other in quick succession and Mr. Hammond's stay in London closed with the big reception to which over a thousand Americans were invited. The Duchess of Roxburghe is one of

the few Americans with whom King George and Queen Mary have dined this season. It was while they were still in official mourning that they were the guests of the Roxburghe. Chesterfield House is one of the show places of London

and the Duchess of Roxburghe bent all her American energy upon getting it when she wanted a new town house last year. She finally secured it and then for months it was in the hands of painters and decorators and emerged much beautified if somewhat too much modernized for English taste.

Lady Granard in her handsome new residence, Forbes House, has entertained on her usual lavish scale. Not only have the King and Queen dined with her but lesser royalties like the Princess Christian, the Princess of Battenberg and Schleswig-Holstein and Teck, to say nothing of Manuel of Portugal, have also been her guests.

The Duchess of Marlborough has given only one large entertainment this season, a dinner followed by a concert, but she has had innumerable small affairs at Sunderland. The Marlborough residence has one of the ugliest exteriors in all

London. It is a massive building crowded into a very small space and is a cross between a prison and a Government building in appearance, but inside it is beautiful. The great hall with its wide marble staircase, the drawing rooms panelled in delicate tints, the dining room in old oak brought from a dismantled manor house and the suites of bedrooms are features of it.

Mrs. James Henry Smith and Mrs. Anthony Drexel are neighbors in Grosvenor Square and their entertainments are very often joint affairs. Their houses are filled with art treasures from all over the world, but perhaps Mrs. Smith's residence is the more interesting. The marble entrance hall strikes the keynote for the stately classical style that distinguishes the rest of the house. Leading out of the hall on the left are the drawing rooms hung in old rose brocade and furnished with Louis XV. furniture covered in beautiful Beauvais tapestries. On the right are the large and small dining rooms and a little apartment known as the Italian salon which Mrs. Smith and her daughter, the Duchesse de Vizen, use as a boudoir. Its walls are draped in heavy crimson brocade. The chairs are all ecclesiastical stables with elaborately carved backs and seats, while early church vestments and bits of Florentine embroidery are hung over tables and stands. The mantelpiece is of carved woodwork decorated with cupids and eagles in high relief.

Mrs. Drexel's drawing room was originally intended for a ballroom and has a musicians' gallery at one end, but it was found much too small, so the Drexels added another ballroom to the house. This year Mrs. Drexel has not given any dances as her daughter, Lady Maidstone, who lives with her, has not been in good health, but she has given many large dinners.

Lady Naylor Leyland opened Hyde Park House with a great ball this season.

Lady Paget designed all the rooms in her home, and the morning room and the double drawing room are her particular pride. The morning room has three of its walls hung in old rose brocade, while the fourth is covered by a piece of Gobelin tapestry. The mantelpiece is of green marble and quaint chairs and tables of oak are scattered about, while photographs of friends and souvenirs of trips to far lands give a personal touch to the apartment. The double drawing room is in white and gold with delicate pink and blue touches. This season Lady Paget has given two receptions and many dinners.

Mrs. William Leeds is proud of her house in Grosvenor Square, though it is only hers temporarily. Mrs. George Keppel is the owner, but Mrs. Leeds is trying to secure a longer lease and remain for two or three years. She has heartily enjoyed entertaining friends there.

Lady Cooper has had a debutante daughter to chaperon this year and most of her entertainments have been to the younger set. Lady Chylemore, who strikes out for something unique in entertainments, turned her drawing room into a variety theatre recently and engaged Continental artists to perform. The actors have given their usual dinners and concerts.

Mrs. Almeric Paget has been unable to join in any festivities for some time owing to her long illness, but she has had several dinners, and her beautiful home has been open to her many friends from America who were here for the coronation. Her special pride in the house is the white music room, a circular apartment with white walls, furniture and rugs and pale pink hangings. Here she always has music after her dinners.

## Strange Fishes Here from Key West

The biggest hawksbill turtle ever brought into Key West is now at the New York Aquarium. It is the biggest specimen of its kind ever exhibited here. It weighs 184 pounds and is about 4 feet in length.

It was taken on a hook by a Key West fisherman who was out catching market fish and brought to this city with other stock by Chapman Grant, scientific assistant at the Aquarium, who lately made a trip to Key West for the purpose of collecting marine specimens from those waters.

There have been catalogued of fish found in Key West waters about 800 varieties; in Bermuda waters about 300. Most of the Aquarium's supplies of sub-tropical fishes have hitherto been brought from Bermuda. In this collection lately brought up from Key West there are specimens of many varieties never before seen here, these including black angel fish, white angel fish, porfish, white grunts, black mangle fish, ocean turbot and marine catfish, and also a species of stone crab new here and a jewfish of a variety not before exhibited and of large size.

The black mangle is a fish of striking appearance, the fishes here shown being, the largest of them, about eighteen inches in length and weighing from three to four pounds. The scales are black at the base and silvery at the tip. The fins are black and around the under side of the fish's body and reaching up on its sides to a point on a level with and just back of the pectoral fins is a broad black blotch or band.

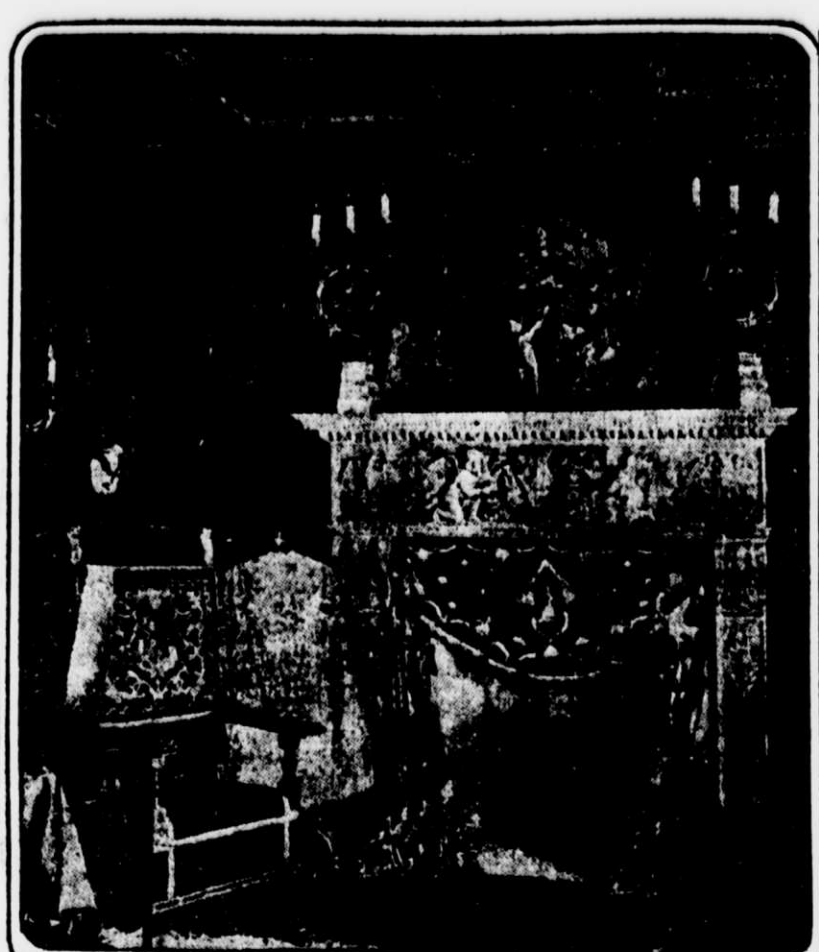
The new white grunts show their characteristic parallel line markings on their gill covers only; not, as commonly, over the entire body as well. The sea catfish have a higher dorsal fin and longer feelers.

The porfish, ranging from ten inches in length and with a ripe, thin body, is very showy. Its body has thin stripes of orange and blue and its fins are yellow or bright orange, while a marking of black runs down from the top of its head on either side to the pectoral fin, and a similar black marking runs down on either side from the top of its back to the under part of its jaw.

The black angel fish, with of the same form as the blue angels that have long been seen in the Aquarium, is of a very different color; it is of a dark olive in color with the scales so marked that they look like white dots all over its body, while for a like space immediately about the mouth and tips of its jaws the black angel fish is of a gray white; the fish has a clearly defined white snout. Its dorsal and anal fins are dark like the body, but showing some tint of orange near the body; its pectoral fins are dark outside but orange colored inside.

The white angel fish has a body of grayish white with pronounced brown bands.

Besides the fishes that are now here there were also brought many of kinds that have long been familiar as yellow finned groupers, blue parrots, gray snappers, cowfish, black grunts, blue angels, schoolmasters and others. In this Key West lot there were altogether 184 specimens, including forty-four varieties.



A CORNER OF THE ITALIAN SALON IN MRS. JAMES HENRY SMITH'S LONDON HOUSE.



GREEN DRAWING ROOM, CHESTERFIELD HOUSE.



MRS. ALMERIC PAGET'S WHITE MUSIC ROOM.

been the scene of elaborate entertainments and invitations to these functions have been eagerly accepted by English social leaders.

As usual, Dorchester House has been a centre of Anglo-American festivities of the season. Mr. and Mrs. Whitelaw Reid have given a number of dinners with impromptu dances or concerts afterward, at least, one royal ball, and several large receptions. Dorchester House is one of the finest residences in London in which to entertain. It is more luxurious in its appointments than the London home of the King and Queen. Every one knows that the American Ambassador has a retinue of seventy or eighty servants.

This year Mrs. Reid's ball to the Crown Princess of Sweden and Princess Patricia of Connaught and the dinner and dance to the Hays Hammonds were notable affairs. The great side dining room was on both occasions a tower of pink roses and orchids. The marble staircase was banked with crimson flannel roses and the terraces which had been covered with awnings were hung with flower lanterns containing electric lights, while roses



LADY PAGET'S DRAWING ROOM.



DRAWING ROOM IN MRS. ANTHONY DREXEL'S HOUSE.



STATE DINING ROOM, DORCHESTER HOUSE.

## More Chances for Students

### Summer Activity of Church and School Gives Work to Many

In spite of the increase in the number of college students seeking paid employment during vacation the chances for getting work are better now than they were, say men who have made a study of this side of college life.

At one time, not so many years ago, offered the farms and suburban districts either the most chances. To-day two-thirds of the students find employment in the cities and almost without exception employment in a city is preferred. Dr. Egbert, head of the summer school at Columbia University, speaking of the liking of college students for city jobs, told of a recent experience he had while riding on a trolley car. The doctor wears a fraternity pin and when about to leave the car the conductor made a remark which led to the disclosure that he was an undergraduate of a Western college and preferably chose his present employment to anything his home town had to offer in order to spend the summer in New York.

As an instance of the increased varieties of vacation work now open to students the doctor mentioned the educational work, religious and secular, in behalf of children and grownups too now carried on in summer in every large city of the United States.

Daily vacation Bible schools and the evangelistic tent movement give employment to hundreds of college men and women. Comparatively few years ago there were no organized attempts to teach large numbers of children anything during vacation. The weeks between opening and closing of the public schools were play time. Generally speaking it was play time too with the city churches. Summer sessions of colleges had not yet come in fashion.

Alas, his has been changed. As an educator put it, the educational craze has hit us so hard that there is no real playtime any more for anybody in educational circles.

Professors now teach all summer long as well as all winter long. Poor city children have the cup of knowledge pressed to their lips every day of the year. Religious meetings, hosts of them, are held daily in tents and in the open air in every populous city in this country. This has resulted in the employment of hundreds of college students, even the evangelistic promoters showing a partiality for students of devout tendencies, to help in conducting meetings and acting as scouts.

When the employment bureau at Columbia University first received applications for a considerable number of students to aid in tent work it was surprised. It was also surprised to find that there was no lack of students eager to do this work. Early in July this year thirty schools operated by the Daily Vacation Bible School Society were opened in this city, as against fifteen similar schools last year. Five years ago the society

started with four in New York. Next year it hopes to have twice thirty. Employed in these schools which meet from 9:30 to 11:30 daily in the basements of churches of Manhattan and Brooklyn, are 115 college students, men and women, and the 130 similar schools now scattered through the largest cities of the United States give employment to more than 800 college students, about 60 per cent, women.

In addition to the thirty schools mentioned are twenty-three more run on identical lines by other societies, which also use a good many college students in the teaching force.

"Ninety per cent, of the teachers employed in the daily vacation Bible schools," said W. F. L. Edwards, superintendent of the schools, "are college students. Needless to say these schools represent only one of the many lines of philanthropic work carried on in the large cities the projectors of which make use of college help. Boys' clubs, men's clubs, secular schools of all sorts, sociological work requiring personal visiting among certain classes give employment to students eager for a chance to study city life at first hand."

Perhaps 40 or 50 per cent, of Barnard College students seek paid employment in summer and it is rarely that any one is obliged to seek it on her own accord. The variety of requests for help coming to the employment bureau usually gives a chance to all, if they are not too fastidious. Said the manager: "Since the increase in the number of philanthropic summer homes, vacation houses for children and adults we have had many requests for students who will help with the management. The multiplication of late years of private summer camps for girls also has helped the bureau to place many students. The growing popularity of tea rooms at summer resorts has given profitable work this year to several Barnard students who are to share expenses, profits and work with the projectors. Last year all the ventures in this line turned out to be successes and I imagine it will be the same this year."

"Many of our students go to Chautauqua and take part in the table work and the cooking there. No one objects at all. To some extent it is like a continuation of Teachers' College domestic science course, the head teacher and lecturer at Chautauqua on domestic science subjects being the instructor at Teachers' College. The girls feel that in doing the actual work they are gaining valuable experience as well as earning money."

The other day an application for Barnard students to wait on table at a big boarding house at Asbury Park arrived and we could send at least half the number asked for. "We have students scattered all over the smaller summer hotels of the New England and middle States, where they are employed as waitresses to get up children's parties and parties for older folks; as pianists, as cashiers, and in one case as office assistant."

"Companion to an elderly woman is not one of the popular occupations with college students in summer, but college students are evidently popular with elderly women wanting a companion, judging by the many applications sent in. So far as possible I ascertain what sort of disposition the applicant has and what her habits are before recommending the place to a student, and if the elderly lady needs to travel a girl is often willing to run some risk for the sake of the excitement and change."

## Sick Babies Made Well in the Old Schermerhorn Summer Home

It was not a fashionable audience. Every woman of the eight or ten assembled had a baby in her arms, and several had two or three small children extra. They sat on benches in a pavilion on Avenue A not far from Junior Sea Breeze cottage, which stands on a bluff overlooking the East River at Sixty-fifth street, and which strangers to the neighborhood are told was a summer residence of the Schermerhorn family in the days when Wall street was in the thick of New York's residential district.

Now, as in its youth, the cottage is painted white and has green blinds. The exterior is about the same as when parties of fashionable New Yorkers drove out there in slow going chaises to attend musicales and banquets. The interior shows many changes. The drawing room, divided in two, is now a nurses' dining

steps. There are six of these shacks and they are walled with strong slat blinds, which on occasion may be adjusted to make the place practically wide open. There is not a pane of glass, not a window sash.

Three of the shacks have piazzas projecting over the river and five are equipped each with a dozen or fourteen small, white cribs and all the conveniences of an up-to-date hospital ward. The sixth shack, kept for isolation cases till they can be sent elsewhere, is smaller and seldom contains more than one crib. At any rate it is certain that no other hospital ward in Manhattan is quite so breezy.

It was the new shacks and the dispensary at Junior Sea Breeze that led to the giving of a daily lecture to mothers in a pavilion used as a play place by children when their mothers haven't possession. At first a few mothers came merely to look the place over and to rest in the pavilion before going home again. They

did not intend going to the dispensary nor were they seeking advice.

One day when half a dozen women, each with an infant, sat in the place, older children piling up sand heaps at their feet, the head nurse of Junior Sea Breeze walked over to greet them and to encourage them to talk. That was the start of a series of afternoon talks given during July and August, sometimes by the head nurse, sometimes by one of the physicians, to an audience of several nationalities, which often interpret one to the other what the speaker says. The topic for the day depends a good deal on what the speaker sees when he or she reaches the pavilion and on the questions which are sometimes asked.

Among those waiting in the pavilion one hot afternoon recently was a very young, dark-eyed woman with a puny infant lying across her lap. Two mothers carried each a baby who alternated wailing with moaning a rubber contrivance called a pacifier. Every time the pacifier

dropped in the dirt, which was often, it was picked up by the mother, wiped off on her dress and stuck back in the baby's mouth. Another mother carried a baby who lay quietly with eyes closed from beginning to end of the talk. A mother with a fretful little girl of two years at her side got out of her pocket a bottle of weak, sweetened coffee and gave it to the child when she cried.

It was surprising how much the nurse saw at a glance and how easily she fitted her remarks to the occasion. The women learned that one garment, minus either shoes or stockings was enough clothing for a baby on such a hot day, that the deadly microbe lay in the path of pacifiers and that a pacifier would ruin the shape of a pretty mouth in short order. The latter consideration, the nurse admitted afterward, usually had the greater weight with proud mothers.

The safest, most sustaining method of feeding was explained with care, the speaker's eye on the waxen faced little

girl with the coffee bottle. The nurse induced the mother of the baby lying with closed eyes to call at the dispensary before going home, hospitably leading the way herself in that direction. This, in fact, the nurse told an inquirer, is perhaps the most important part of the talks, saying out the babies, showing care and encouraging their mothers to make use of the free medical advice given at Junior Sea Breeze Cottage.

In the case of the waxen faced little girl it developed that lack of proper nutrition had brought her vitality down to the danger point and that the quiet baby was so critically ill that the physician advised the mother not to take it home but to leave it in care of a nurse in one of the breezy shacks on the water's edge. Money did not matter, the mother was told. Junior Sea Breeze was asked for the special benefit of babies who have no money, and there were thirty of them at that minute tucked away in the cool cribs carefully protected with mosquito



A CORNER OF THE DISPENSARY ONCE A DINING ROOM.



CRIBS ON SHACK PIAZZA ABOVE THE RIVER.



SOME OF THE LECTURE AUDIENCE.

room and an administrative office. The library has been converted into a milk laboratory. Partitions have changed large old fashioned sleeping rooms into an increased number of smaller rooms. The octagonal dining room with its long casement windows and with several doors leading to a side piazza and the main hall has not been changed, but the room is now used for a dispensary and general reception room for mothers and babies and is open from 9:30 A. M. to 5 P. M. every day but Sunday.

Once upon a time guests drove up to the front door between rows of stately trees shading a handsome lawn. To-day visitors mostly walk up from Avenue A over a bare stretch of earth, sand and stones to reach the front door. Something not included in the old estate is a double row of one story wooden shacks built on higher ground to the north of the cottage and connected with it by a covered passage and a short flight of



A GRADUATING CLASS.

netting. Before the end of July every one of the seventy cribs would be in commission probably. Said the nurse as she led the way through the shacks tenanted by the thirty babies ranging from four months to nearly three years old: "We could save more lives if we got hold of the babies sooner. Young mothers often don't realize how ill their babies are and some of them imagine that once they put a baby in our care they won't be allowed to visit it, whereas mothers may come here every day."

It is wonderful how quickly some critically ill babies respond to good care and fresh air. On one day at the end of last August we sent home nine babies in tip top condition each of whom was in a critical condition when admitted two to three weeks earlier. We called them our graduating class and felt proud of the way they looked."

"I doubt," concluded the nurse, "whether the banquet hall of the Schermerhorn summer home ever held happier folks than it sometimes holds now, when happy, hearty babies are restored to waiting mothers' arms."

Since it opened for the season, about July 1, till the middle of July 120 babies had been treated at the dispensary.